

DOCKET NO.: 214349US0CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
GERD JONAS ET AL : GROUP ART UNIT: 1771
SERIAL NO.: NEW APPLICATION :
FILED: HEREWITH : EXAMINER: BEFUMO, J.
FOR: ABSORBENT INSERTS, METHOD:
OF PRODUCING THEM AND
THEIR USE :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-21 without prejudice to their further presentation in a Continuation application.

Please add the following new Claims:

22. (New) An absorbent insert for a packaging, comprising:

a top and a bottom covering layer; and

a core which absorbs an aqueous liquid and includes an absorbent polymer;

wherein the absorbent polymer has a quotient $Q_{SAP\ 0.3}$ calculated from retention and absorption under a pressure of 0,3 psi (21 g/cm²) and from an amount of a soluble ratio of at least 20 and a retention of at least 22 g/g.

23. (New) The absorbent insert of Claim 22, wherein the polymer has a $Q_{SAP\ 0.3}$ of at

least 30.

24. (New) The absorbent insert according to Claim 22, wherein the absorbent polymer has a retention of at least 25 g/g.

25. (New) The absorbent insert according to Claim 22, wherein the absorbent polymer has an absorption under pressure of at least 15 g/g.

26. (New) The absorbent insert according to Claim 22, wherein the soluble ratio of the absorbent polymer is 3.5 wt.-%.

27. (New) The absorbent insert according to Claim 22, wherein having a migration value of ≤ 15 mg/g.

28. (New) The absorbent insert according to Claims 22, wherein the top and bottom covering layer comprise a plastic or cellulose film, a fabric or a fleece; and

at least one part of the covering layer film is permeable to water or an aqueous liquid as a result of a perforation.

29. (New) Absorbent insert according to Claim 22, wherein the core comprises fleece, a fiber, a fabric;

wherein the polymer absorbing an aqueous liquid is dispersed and optionally fixed.

30. (New) Absorbent insert according to Claim 29, wherein the core has an arrangement in layers of the absorbent polymer part within the core of fiber and fabric.

31. (New) Absorbent insert according to Claim 29 or 30, wherein the fiber is a hollow fiber.

32. (New) Absorbent insert according to Claim 22, wherein the absorbent polymer is made from a partially neutralized monoethylenically unsaturated monomer containing an acid group and, optionally another monomer copolymerizable therewith;

wherein the absorbent polymer is further made from crosslinker as well as a polymer

optionally serving as graft basis.

33. (New) Absorbent insert according to Claim 32, wherein said unsaturated monomer containing an acid group is selected from the group consisting of an acrylic acid, a methacrylic acid, vinylacetic acid, vinyl sulfonic acid, (meth)allylsulfonic acid, maleic acid, 2-acrylamido-2-methylpropanesulfonic acid and a mixture thereof.

34. (New) A method of packaging foodstuff, comprising:

packaging a foodstuff in a package capturing the absorbent insert for a package, comprising a top and a bottom covering layer and a core which absorbs an aqueous liquid and includes an absorbent polymer;

wherein the absorbent polymer has a quotient $Q_{SAP\ 0,3}$ calculated from retention and absorption under a pressure of 0,3 psi (21 g/cm²) and from the amount of soluble ratio of at least 20 and a retention of at least 22 g/g.

35. (New) A method of making an ice for a packaging application, comprising:

(a) providing an absorbent insert for a packaging, comprising a top and a bottom covering layer and a core which absorbs an aqueous liquid and includes an absorbent polymer, wherein the absorbent polymer has a quotient $Q_{SAP\ 0,3}$ calculated from retention and absorption under a pressure of 0,3 psi (21 g/cm²) and from the amount of soluble ratio of at least 20 and a retention of at least 22 g/g;

(b) soaking said absorbent insert in water, thereby obtaining a soaked insert; and

(c) freezing the soaked insert.

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 have been canceled in favor of new Claims 22-35.

No new matter is believed to have been added by entry of this amendment. Entry and

favorable reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this amendment Claims 22-35 will now be active in this application.

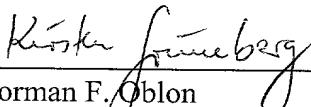
Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for examination on the merits and early notice of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marked-Up Copy
Serial No: New Application
Amendment Filed on:
9-25-01

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-21 (Cancelled).

Claims 22-35 (New).